

## THE TRIBUNE'S FOREIGN NEWS

CHRISTMAS QUIET  
IN ROYAL HOME

Prince's First Pay as Midshipman Buys Present for His Mother.

QUEEN ALEXANDRA  
MAY VISIT RUSSIA

Festive Season Appropriately Observed in All the Big London Hotels.

[By Cable to The Tribune.]  
London, Dec. 27.—The King and Queen, with all their children, spent Christmas at York cottage, Sandringham. There was a great family reunion, both at luncheon and at dinner, and Queen Alexandra, who is stopping at Sandringham House, was at both.

Late on Christmas Eve and early on Christmas Day presents poured in, and by the time the royal family met at breakfast hundreds of parcels had been sorted under various names, all the seals broken, and all the strings cut ready for their owners. Family gifts only were on the table, and while those of the King and Queen to their children were costly though useful, those to the parents from the children were representative of the savings of the young royalties' allowances, and so were not so expensive; in fact, one or two were the work of the children's hands.

"Frigger Wagner" gave his mother a blouse and a set of cuff buttons and studs. Prince Albert gave her a handsome Maltese lace collar, bought out of his first pay as midshipman. A present causing some excitement was a model monoplane sent to Prince John, who had a great time with it.

**Gifts for Queen Mother.**  
All the family, of course, had gifts for Queen Alexandra, and the children raced across the lawn to her house at an early hour, carrying presents.

The business of parcel inspection was by no means ended by church time. The luncheon at Sandringham House was also dinner for the juniors. Turkey, hams, roast beef, plum pudding, mince pies and other delicacies adorned the table. In the afternoon all sorts of games were indulged in, Princess Victoria, and Prince and Princess Arthur of Connaught conducting the festivities. After tea a small Christmas tree was lighted, and some presents were distributed, then there was a small dance, and the children went to bed.

Dinner that evening was a formal affair, and was served in the great tapestry-hung dining room. The procession to the table was in semi-state affairs, and Queen Mary and Queen Alexandra both were the Order of the Garter.

All day Wednesday carts took warm blankets, garments, groceries, toys and goodies to various cottages on the Sandringham estate, and in the afternoon all the men employed on the estate gathered in the Sandringham coach-house for the King's distribution of prime beef, a distribution which has taken place annually for close upon fifty years. The King and Queen and their children were all present. Lists had been prepared on which the name and the number in the family of each applicant were entered.

**Beef for Nine.**  
"How many children?" asked the King when one particularly big piece of beef was handed to one man, and when the latter blushing answered, "Nine, your majesty," everybody laughed.

London is becoming more cosmopolitan every day, and the influence of that fact is beginning to be felt. This was shown particularly on Christmas Eve, when all the West End hotels made elaborate preparations for entertaining their guests in various ways, principally in the direction of special dinners with accompanying festivities, such as Christmas trees, bringing in the boar's head, etc. Formerly Christmas Day in England was a purely home affair, and everybody who had a home dined in it, but now many seek the great hotels and eat there amid gaiety and fun.

The Carlton, the Savoy, the Ritz, the Waldorf, the Cecil, the Piccadilly—in fact, all the big hotels—were crowded this year.

Queen Alexandra may this year abandon her usual course of taking a Mediterranean trip, so that she can pay a visit to the Empress Marie of Russia at Castle Gatchina, thirty miles from St. Petersburg. It is some years since Queen Alexandra was there, and she was to go very much, it is said. Castle Gatchina is the life property of the Empress Marie, under her husband's will.

**Miss Asquith Better.**  
Miss Elizabeth Asquith, the Prime Minister's daughter, left town for the first time, on Wednesday, since her recent operation for appendicitis. She is now spending a vacation in the country with her family, and is doing very well indeed.

The Marquis and Marchioness of Londonderry are entertaining a party this week at Wynyard, including the Duchess of Westminster.

Mr. and Mrs. Winston Churchill are the guests of the Duke of Westminster at Mimizan, in the Landes (France).

Misses Sara, Olga and Mary Wiborg are guests of the Duke and Duchess of Rutland at Belvoir Castle over Christmas, and will go to India next month. Mr. and Mrs. Frank B. Wiborg are now at the Berkeley.

Mr. and Mrs. J. Arthur Barratt went to the Grand Hotel, Torquay, for the holidays. Mr. Barratt is counsel to the American Embassy.

DUCHESS OF RUTLAND.



## NEW THEATRE FOR LONDON

\$125,000 Fund Planned for Permanent Repertory.

[By Cable to The Tribune.]  
London, Dec. 27.—Granville Barker is working very diligently to enlist public support for a permanent repertory theatre. He wants to find a thousand men willing to subscribe \$125 each.

Montague Wigan, long associated with Miss Horniman, is bending his efforts in the same direction, and considerable interest is being taken by the theatre-going public.

The scheme has received a stimulus through the recent purchase by the Shakespeare Memorial National Theatre Committee of a site in Bloomsbury.

## TWINS TO BE SEPARATED

Xiphopagic Cartilage Can Be Safely Cut, Specialist Says.

[By Cable to The Tribune.]  
Paris, Dec. 27.—The delicate operation of separating the Parisian born Siamese twins, Madeleine and Suzanne, will shortly be performed by an eminent French specialist, Dr. Le Fillatre. Madeleine and Suzanne, who were born at the beginning of last month, are joined in a xiphopagic manner by a thick cartilage extending from the breastbone to the umbilicus.

A thorough X-ray examination showed the organs of the children to be separate, and it is therefore believed that an operation is likely to be successful. Madeleine and Suzanne appear to be perfectly healthy children, but the constant supervision of a nurse as well as a system of binding together the arms and shoulders is necessary to prevent brusque movements which would cause injury to both.

## NEW LYRIC FAIRY PLAY

"Les Contes de Perrault" Makes Hit in Paris.

[By Cable to The Tribune.]  
Paris, Dec. 27.—"Les Contes de Perrault," a lyric fairy play in four acts by Arthur Bernède and Paul de Choudens, music by Felix Poldiraud, produced to-night at the Théâtre du Gaîté, strings on a single thread, a dozen delicious tales of Perrault, retaining a good share of the humor, sentiment and grace of the original.

Petit Poucet becomes in succession Prince Charmant, Puff, Powder, Riquet and Puss in Boots. He, of course, falls in love with Cinderella, who also becomes Peau d'Ane, the Sleeping Beauty and Princesse Loin-taine.

The music is light and catching, among the passages most applauded being Cinderella's dream and the duet of Cinderella and Prince Charmant.

The opera is enlivened by effective ballets of fairies and elves. Mlle. Angèle Grill sang the part of Cinderella, and Mlle. Yvonne Printemps was Prince Charmant.

## BOOK INTERESTS PARIS

Young Doctor Gives His Impression of the Blind.

[By Cable to The Tribune.]  
Paris, Dec. 27.—Great interest has been aroused in Paris by the publication of the first book of a young Lyons doctor, André Curtil, who, during many years' work among the blind has struck a number of curious phases of their psychology and the peculiar philosophy of their outlook resulting from being deprived of their sight.

Dr. Curtil noted his impressions and wrote the volume for his own pleasure. It has caused something of a sensation in literary circles. "Le Temps," commenting on the book, hails the author as a new Maeterlinck. Dr. Curtil is twenty-six years old.

## Blows Exchanged in New Diet.

Agram, Croatia, Dec. 27.—The New Croatian Diet was formally opened to-day and was informally adjourned after a brief and riotous session, in which blows were exchanged because of the inability of the members to agree peaceably on a date for the next meeting.

## ENGLISH BAN PRISON FILM

Home Office Agitated by Pictures of Convict's Escape.

[By Cable to The Tribune.]  
London, Dec. 27.—London's censorship of films for the rest of England appears to be subject to revision by the Home Office, for the cinema play, "The Escape," was recently banned.

The story tells of the escape of a convict from Portland Prison and the pictures were taken in a private quarry near the prison, with the actors dressed in convicts' garb. No prisoner ever escaped from Portland Prison, but despite this the Home Office threatens to confiscate the whole film unless parts are cut out. The producer defies the Home Office and says he will keep the film as it is.

The British Board of Film Censors states that all houses other than government property in the neighborhood of Portland Prison quarries will be removed immediately and the walls around the quarries will be raised to twenty feet, as the authorities believe some part of the film was taken with a telephoto lens.

## ARMED SKELETON DUG UP

Many Other Relics of Roman Rule Excavated in England.

[By Cable to The Tribune.]  
London, Dec. 27.—Valuable discoveries of Roman and Saxon relics have been made at the excavations on the Roman site at Lowbury, on the Berkshire Downs, four miles west of Goring-on-Thames. Under the guidance of the archaeological department of the University Reading a rectangular inclosure containing several barrows has been unearthed and seventy-two Roman coins, some as early as the second century, have been found.

The coins belonged to the reigns of Trajan, Antoninus and Marcus Aurelius. Other discoveries included a bronze signet ring, daggers and spearheads.

The skeleton of a Saxon warrior, fully armed, was found buried close at hand.

## KNIGHTS IN ARMOR COMING

Twelve Portraits Leave Paris for Metropolitan Museum.

[By Cable to The Tribune.]  
Paris, Dec. 27.—Ashford Dean, one of the curators of the Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York, left here for Cologne this morning, after having completed with William Henry Riggs the final classification of the famous ancient armor collection which will be inaugurated in New York in the spring. Ten large cases were shipped from Havre to-day on the France, thus completing 135 chests, containing the whole collection.

This last consignment includes twelve sixteenth century full length lifesize portraits in armor of French, Spanish, Italian, German and English knights, including one of Chevalier Bayard, considered the finest portrait from an armorial point of view known to exist. These portraits will be hung in the Metropolitan Museum as a decorative setting for historic suits of armor.

Mr. Dean intends sailing from Hamburg for New York on January 6, where Mr. Riggs, who will sail early in February, will join him. Then they will both superintend the installation of the entire armor collection in the Metropolitan Museum.

## FOR COVENT GARDEN BALL

Favorite Actors to Appear—Tango Wanes in Favor.

[By Cable to The Tribune.]  
London, Dec. 27.—The Three Arts Ball at Covent Garden on January 22 is being looked forward to with great interest. The chief features of the evening will be under the direction of Gerald Du Maurier and Graham Browne. Favorite actors and actresses will appear in parts in which they have made themselves famous, Sir Herbert Tree as Sir Peter Teazle, Miss Marie Lohr as Lady Teazle, Miss Marie Tempest as the Geisha and Gerald Du Maurier as Captain Hook in "Peter Pan." There will be fifteen groups in all.

The tango is now falling off in popularity all the time, and hostesses are at last going back to the cotillon and to the giving of simple favors instead of the expensive ones that drove the cotillon out of mode. Several big balls are to be given soon, at which the tango one-step and other "shiver dances" will be barred.

## LORD BURNHAM HONORED

Representatives of Press Give Address on 80th Birthday.

London, Dec. 27.—Representatives of the British and foreign press gathered to-day at Hall Barn, the beautiful and historic home of Lord Burnham, the "grand old man" of the British press, to present him an address on the occasion of the eightieth anniversary of his birthday, which occurs to-morrow.

Lord Burnham is still active in his control of "The Daily Telegraph," of which he is the chief owner, and his services to the newspaper world were suitably recorded in an address signed not only by the leading English newspaper men but by representatives of the American, European, Canadian, Australasian, New Zealand, South African and East Indian press.

## SYRIA SEES AN AEROPLANE

Vedrine Honored in Beirut—Causes Consternation in Jaffa.

Beirut, Syria, Dec. 27.—Julius Vedrine, the French aviator now on an air trip from Paris to Cairo, caused a complete suspension of business here to-day, when he made the first aeroplane flight ever carried out over this city.

The Patriarch presented the aviator with a bouquet prior to his departure for Cairo.

Jaffa, Palestine, Dec. 27.—Julius Vedrine, the French aviator, passed over this port to-day on his way to Cairo, causing consternation among the inhabitants, most of whom were ignorant of the existence of flying machines.

Murder Trial Impending;  
G. K. Chesterton To Be Judge

John Jasper Faces Capital Charge in Edwin Drood Mystery.

[From The Tribune Correspondent.]  
London, Dec. 27.—The trial of John Jasper for the murder of Edwin Drood will take place on January 7 next in the King's Hall, Covent Garden, under the auspices of the Dickens Fellowship, an event which promises to be one of unusual interest, especially to that ever increasing band of enthusiasts who during the last few years have endeavored to gather up the threads of Dickens's half-told tale and bring it to a satisfactory conclusion. There have been many attempted solutions. One American humorist has even made it the subject of riotous burlesque; Proctor turned aside from astronomy to make a "loving study" of the story; spirit hands are said to have attempted to write a sequel, and in later years a large number of literary experts have woven ingenious theories to link up all that Dickens had written and to explain what he would have done had not the pen fallen from his hand in death.

The committee of the Dickens Fellowship has induced the Drood experts, as one may call them, to come together in a battle of wits and endeavor to thrash out the problem. Nearly every one who will take part in the trial of John Jasper will have qualified for the position by long and intimate study of the wonderful book. G. K. Chesterton, whose volume on Dickens is a notable contribution to modern criticism, will act as judge. The leading counsel for the prosecution will be J. Cumming Walters, author of "Clues to the Mystery of Edwin Drood," who first started the ball rolling in recent years by the daring theory that the Datchery of the story was none other than Helena Landless in disguise. He will have as his junior B. W. Matz, editor of "The Dickensian." The leading counsel for the defense will be W. Walter Crotch, author of "Charles Dickens as a Social Reformer."

The witnesses and the officials of the court have also been chosen for their Dickensian knowledge. The Clerk of Arraigns will be Walter Dexter; A. E. Brooks Cross will be the usher, and even the two policemen will be members of the Dickens Fellowship. Among the witnesses, Durdles will be in the hands of Bransby Williams, the impersonator of Dickens characters; the Rev. Septimus Crisparkle will be impersonated by Arthur Waugh, Helena Landless by Mrs. Laurence Clay, the Optum Woman by John K. Protheroe, and Bazzard by C. Sheridan Jones. John Jasper, the prisoner in the dock, will be impersonated by F. T. Harry.

Great difference of opinion exists among experts as to whether Edwin Drood was murdered or not. Dickens himself never definitely disclosed his views on this point, and some of the latter day critics have believed that Edwin would have hobbled up again toward the end of the story. But for the purposes of the trial it has been assumed that Edwin is really dead.

The jury has been drawn from a large number of distinguished men, among whom are G. Bernard Shaw (foreman), Sir Edward Russell, Dr. W. L. Courtney, W. W. Jacobs, Hilaire Belloc, "Tom" Gallon, William de Morgan, Arthur Morrison, W. Pett Ridge, Raymond Paton and Ridgwell Cullum. It is probable that the names of Sir F. C. Burnand, Professor Jackson and Oscar Browning will be added to the list.

It must not be supposed that the "trial" will be in any sense in the nature of a play, for which the various actors have learned their parts. The stage of King's Hall will be arranged as a court of law; every one present will be in costume; but beyond this all is on the knees of the gods. The speeches of counsel, the line of cross-examination of witnesses and the summing up by the judge—all these are left to the individual performers.

PROF. GOODNOW, OF NEW YORK,  
UPHOLDS CHINESE PRESIDENT

Finds After Six Months' Study on the Spot That New Republic Needs a Strong Executive—Constructive Work Ahead Would Be Hampered by Parliamentary Control.

Peking, Dec. 2.—Professor Frank J. Goodnow, formerly of Columbia University, New York, and now adviser to the Chinese government, has taken a very definite stand in opposition to the draft of the constitution proposed by the Parliament which has just been invalidated by the expulsion of four hundred members belonging to the radical Kwo Ming-tang party.

Professor Goodnow came to China six months ago. It did not take him long to reach the conclusion that ample powers should be placed in the hands of the President and his Cabinet, and this opinion has been justified and supported, he says, by his subsequent observations.

His report on the proposed constitution has been made public, together with a number of other opinions supporting the position of President Yuan Shih-kai, as against Parliament. Some of the more important paragraphs follow:

"The present constitution finally takes from the President almost all power of dissolution, and thereby deprives him of his most effective weapon of defence against a hostile legislature, which itself may not be representative of the people.

"What China would seem to need, for the present at any rate, is a strong executive, who should be permitted, subject to a general control to be exercised by the legislature over the policy to be followed, to pursue that policy unhampered by vexatious restrictions.

"It appears to be generally believed that foreign loans will soon have to be made. It can hardly be hoped that the banks which may be expected to undertake the placing of these loans will be willing to advance large sums of money under a form of government which makes it impossible to determine with reasonable certainty who will, even in a few months, have the disposition of the proceeds of these loans."

Professor Goodnow then sets forth that a large amount of constructive legislation confronts China, and says this work could be greatly expedited by executive orders, as against parliamentary procedure. With regard to the committee which Parliament proposed to leave in Peking during the months that it is not in session, Professor Goodnow says:

"This body is quite a new thing in constitutional government. Its establishment is apparently due to the desire not to trust the President with the exercise of political power. That the presence of the committee in Peking will greatly hamper the effectiveness of the government is greatly to be feared."

As has been stated, it was prior to the dissolution of the Kwo Ming Tang, the most hostile of the political parties and the largest, that Professor Goodnow's advice was asked for and given. After the drafting committee definitely and repeatedly refused to receive the President's delegates or listen to his views, Yuan Shih-kai took the action which resulted in incapacitating the National Assembly.

## FIDDLERS LOSE STRIKE

Paris Restaurants Resort to Mechanical Music.

[By Cable to The Tribune.]  
Paris, Dec. 27.—The strike of the Tzigane fiddlers, which began with the Christmas holidays, ended to-night in a complete collapse. The gold-braided musicians vainly imagined that Parisian, and especially Montmartre, gaiety could not exist without them, but the hotels, restaurants and cabaret proprietors combined against them, resorting to mechanical music, accordions and French violinists, and the verdict of all the night revelers is that the supper parties are now all the better without them.

## AMELIE RIVES COMING

Princess Troubetskoy and Husband Sail for New York.

[By Cable to The Tribune.]  
Paris, Dec. 27.—The Russian sculptor, Prince Troubetskoy, who, with his wife (Amelie Rives), sails from Havre to-day for New York, says he intends stopping three months in the United States, passing most of that time in New York, where he has a dozen portrait busts to make before he returns to Paris in April.

Walter Gay, the painter of interiors, who, with his wife, is also sailing to-day on the French liner France, has several orders to fulfil in New York and Boston before coming back to Paris in March.

Other passengers on the France include Dr. Alexis Carrel and his bride. Mr. and Mrs. Harry Lehr have taken a house in the Rue de Lille, in the Faubourg St. Germain quarter of Paris, and intend passing a considerable portion of each year here.

Mrs. Catherine Mackay has taken an apartment in Paris and will probably visit the south of France early in the New Year.

**Pardon for Maza Asked.**  
Havana, Dec. 27.—The Reporters' Association and the Press Association of Havana, to-day requested President Menocal to pardon Enrique Maza, a Cuban journalist, who is serving a sentence of two and a half years' imprisonment imposed in August, 1912, for assaulting Hugh H. Gibson, at the time charge d'affaires of the American Legation here.



G. K. CHESTERTON.

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GERMAN OUTLOOK  
FOR 1914 GLOOMY

Financial and Commercial Conditions Far from Satisfactory.

[By Cable to The Tribune.]  
London, Dec. 27.—A prominent financial man who has just returned from an extended visit to Berlin and other important German cities says that the outlook commercially and financially in Germany for 1914 is extremely bad.

Bad as was 1913, things are expected to be worse in 1914.

Although the Reichsbank has been greatly strengthened in its gold reserve, the general banking situation is very discouraging. The banks have very little money and it is scarce and hard to get, with prospects of becoming rapidly scarcer. Loans are being refused on all sides, and it is almost impossible to get loans to start new enterprises or extend old ones.

The trouble, according to this authority, is largely due to the overextension of German commerce on borrowed capital in the past. The principal part of the business of the German banks has been the financing of German commercial enterprises on long time loans. Consequently, the banks are so intimately tied up with German commerce that this stability is absolutely dependent on keeping industrial affairs going.

Meanwhile the merchants and business men have been following the policy of giving long credits and making small profits, and depending on the banks to furnish, through loans, the large capital needed to keep business going under these conditions.

The business men are now unable to collect debts, and are therefore unable to pay the banks, while the banks dare not call loans through fear that a universal smash would follow such a course, but, on the contrary, still must seek to find money to keep afloat the enterprises they have already financed.

This is the situation in which the German commercial and banking world now finds itself, and for this reason it is believed that 1914 will be the worst year Germany has yet seen.

## TANGO POPULAR IN ROME

Practically Universal in Salons of Eternal City.

[By Cable to The Tribune.]  
Rome, Dec. 26.—The strenuous efforts at the Vatican to suppress the tango in Italy have proved almost a failure. Following the example of Rome, there has been issued throughout the country a circular giving instructions to the clergy to initiate a crusade against the tango and such like dances as being "offensive to the purity of every right minded person and unworthy of being introduced into houses and receptions attended by Catholic women."

All the great Italian pulpit orators have fulminated against the fashion, which is now, however, practically universal in the salons of the Eternal City.

## PAINTER'S SECRET OUT

Death Reveals Hermit's Collection of Masterpieces.

Paris, Dec. 19.—A few days ago there died in an obscure corner of Montmartre a curious old man. A little band of painters visited his dilapidated studio.

There on the walls, the floor, chairs and easels was a collection of pictures that caused cries of admiration. Inquiries showed that the old man's name was Ferdinand Peles.

Twenty years ago Peles, one of the most brilliant artists of the day and a chivalier of the Legion of Honor, disappeared suddenly. Haunted by the misery he saw everywhere around him, he determined to devote himself to the cause of the poor and friendless.

Tramps, unfortunates, vagrants, beggars, consumptives and thugs alone were admitted into his sanctuary. For twenty years he worked on, living on next to nothing, merciless to himself, but always kind and helpful to others.

## RAMPOLLA WILL MYSTERY

Talk of Exhuming Cardinal's Body Heard in Rome.

Rome, Dec. 27.—Officials of the Vatican, as well as intimate friends and relatives of the late Cardinal Rampolla, to-day denied emphatically rumors put in circulation in certain quarters in Rome of mysterious circumstances surrounding the prelate's death. They also declared there was no intention of exhuming his body for medical examination, as the cause of death had already been established.

The rumors in question are assumed to have been founded on the disappearance of a small box supposed to have contained some private papers.

In spite of the denial given out at the Vatican the "Messaggero," a popular newspaper, says the exhumation of the body of Cardinal Rampolla has been ordered in consequence of the suspicious aroused by his sudden death and the disappearance of his will, which, it is thought, may have been connected with it.

## HISTORIC PAPERS FOUND

Give French View of Washington and His Associates.

Paris, Dec. 19.—Claude Halstead Van Tyne, the historian, of Ann Arbor, Mich., in searching through the French government archives has come across a mass of letters by M. Gerard, the French Minister to the United States during the administration of General Washington.

The correspondence contains minute descriptions of political and social life during the period and many personal references to and sketches of distinguished persons, among them Washington, Hamilton and the Adamses.

Mr. Van Tyne has talked over with Gabriel Hanotaux, president of the Comité France-Amérique, the possibility of publishing the letters, which would make two large volumes.



PRINCESS TROUBETSKOY.